

CHS NEWS

A publication by and for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

June 5, 2000

NEWS BRIEFS

COMMUNICATIONS MOVES

The CHS Office of Communications will be moving to new offices on the 5th Floor of the CHR Building this week.

The office will keep its telephone numbers: 502-564-6786 and fax 502-564-0274. The mailstop will now be 5C-A.

The offices are located adjacent to the Office of Secretary.



TIP OF
THE
WEEK

When it comes to water safety, most people are aware of diving injuries, drowning, and sunburn; few people think about getting ill from going swimming. The most common waterborne infections reported to CDC cause diarrhea. Most are reported during the summer swimming season.

Although swimming is a great deal of fun, remember that swimming is essentially communal bathing. When contaminated water is swallowed by other swimmers, they can get sick. Chlorine works well against most germs, it doesn't kill all of them. The best way to avoid getting sick from swimming is to keep germs out of the pool and to remember not to swallow swimming water.

Search Begins For CHS Office of Women's Health Director

Secretary Jimmy Helton is conducting a search for the executive director for the Office of Women's Health, which will be attached to his office in the Cabinet for Health Services.

The office will provide a centralized resource of information for the purpose of coordinating cabinet activities involving women's physical and mental health. A staff assistant and clerical staff will also be hired.

Legislation to create the office was approved in the 1998 General Assembly, but funds were not allocated until the 2000 General Assembly.

"Issues dealing with women's health require special attention," Secretary Helton said. "Heart disease, for example, is the chief cause of death among American women of all ages.

"Hypertension is two to three times more common in women

than men and highest among black women. Lung cancer is the number one cancer killer of American women, and breast cancer kills 44,000 women each year.

"It is my expectation that this new office will bring focus to efforts to improve women's health by reaching across and pulling together those programs in various agencies that can help improve the health care status of women," he said.

Specifically the responsibilities of the office are to:

- 1) Serve as a repository for data and information affecting women's physical and mental health.
- 2) Analyze and communicate trends in women's physical and mental health issues.
- 3) Recommend to the cabinet and relevant advisory committees

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Parts Ordered For Escalator Repair Work

Time marches on, but a couple of the escalators in the CHR Building have a problem moving at all.

The 5th to 6th floor escalator is being repaired this week. Parts had to be ordered. That is also the problem on the lower level. Parts are on order, and it will be unusable until approximately the end of the week (June 10). For those who take the stairs, you get extra credit in your wellness program. Sorry for the inconvenience.



Search Starts For Director Of Women's Health

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data elements affecting women's physical and mental health. The office shall advise and direct which data elements should be collected, analyzed

and reported in a timely manner under health data collection laws.

- 4) Cooperate and collaborate with cabinet agencies in receiving and disseminating information through all forms of media,

including the Internet.

- 5) Plan, develop and administer a Women's Resource Center within the cabinet to focus on targeted preventive care and comprehensive health education.

Historical Society Features 19th-Century Surgeon As Luncheon Topic This Week At History Center

The Kentucky Historical Society welcomes Dr. Eric Howard Christianson as part of its Brown Bag History series on **Wednesday, June 7**, at noon in the Kentucky History Center. Admission is free.

The June topic, "Dr. Benjamin W. Dudley: Defining the Cutting Edge of 19th-Century Surgery," will focus on the contributions made to American medicine by a Kentucky surgeon.

Dudley, who spent most of his life in Lexington, studied surgery under Napoleon's personal physician, the Baron Larrey. After learning the basics of surgical management, he returned to Kentucky to assume the chair of anatomy and surgery at

Transylvania University. Dudley became nationally known for his pioneering treatments in epilepsy and aneurysms, and was noted for sterilizing his instruments years before germs were discovered.

To order a lunch in advance, please call Joan DiMartino at (502) 564-1792 ext. 4467. The price of a lunch is \$6, which includes sandwich,

salad, chips and a cookie. Ordered lunches will be available for pickup the day of the program.

The Kentucky Historical Society is an agency of the Education, Arts and Humanities Cabinet. The Kentucky History Center is the headquarters of the Kentucky Historical Society and is located in historic downtown Frankfort.



TEN-URE Recognizes CHS Employees

CHS employees who were recognized at the recent TEN-URE convention represented more than 9,500 years of service.

Clyde Bolton, executive director of the CHS Office of Program Support, represented the cabinet at the convention. "These years are accounted for solely by those we honored, not by the total work force. I was astonished and humbled by the dedication reflected in this number," he said.

"We can all take pride in the these fine performers and the service they provide daily to the people of Kentucky. When you see a service longevity pin in the next few days, give that person a pat on the back. They make all of us in the Cabinet for Health Services look good."

Deferred Comp Here June 7

A representative from the Kentucky Public Employees Deferred Compensation Authority will be at the Health Services Auditorium on June 7 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to answer questions, enroll new members and make changes in investment plans.